

Use colour sheet

Building gifts into talents

REFLECTION SHEET

What does Gagné mean by chance elements?

There are things no human being has control over such things as the accident of birth and background, genetics as well as environmental factors like family or social environment. The 'chance' factors impacts on the persons ability to turn their gifts into talents.

Give examples of possible chance factors under the following headings:

Developmental process

This process relies on opportunities such as education exposed to the gifted person or time + energy they put into it. If they are poor or from a social background that doesn't allow for opportunities, it affects the gift being developed into a talent.

Intrapersonal catalysts—physical

Ethnic - culture may not give value to that type of gift or allow individual to persevere due to gender etc. Handicaps may be a barrier to the individual to develop the gift. Illness - may be too weak, ill to focus energy on gift.

Intrapersonal catalysts—psychological

Personality or temperament can affect a persons motivation to develop a gift into a talent

Environmental catalysts—macroscopic

Diversity of environmental factors such as where someone lives urban, rural or family wealth, Society or cultural.

Environmental catalysts—microscopic

People who influence the individual can have a positive/negative affect on a gift including, family, teachers, mentors, peers etc.

Which factors do you have some influence over?

Environmental as an individual teacher

Provisions through the curriculum

Goal management - value the gift, meet the needs of their behaviour

Developmental process - be a positive influence

What implications does this have for schools, classrooms and educators?

That it is vital that we identify gifted children and meet their

needs emotionally and challenge

their gift to allow the develop-

mental process to begin. The curriculum has to be rich and challenging and sensitive to gifted children.